



Dr. Rajendra Pachauri.
Photo: Scanpix.

José Manuel Barroso.
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Lord Nicholas Stern.
Photo: Scanpix.

High profile speakers to address Copenhagen Climate Congress

Lord Nicholas Stern, author of the influential Stern Review on the Economics of Climate Change, IPCC chairman Dr. Rajendra Pachauri, and chairman of the European Commission José Manuel Barroso will deliver keynote speeches at an international scientific congress on climate change in Copenhagen on 10-12 March 2009.

The University of Copenhagen is hosting the congress, entitled "Climate Change: Global Risks, Challenges and Decisions" in association with the International Alliance of Research Universities (IARU). Several thousand scientific researchers will participate in 57 sessions during the three day event.

Strategically scheduled in advance of the all-important United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP15) to be held in Copenhagen in December 2009, the congress aims to provide a synthesis of existing and emerging scientific knowledge necessary for making intelligent decisions to help mitigate and adapt to climate change. An executive summary from the congress will be handed to policy makers at COP15. ■

More information on the congress is available on: <http://climatecongress.ku.dk/>

AN AIR-CONDITIONING SYSTEM THAT USES 90% LESS ELECTRICITY

Danish company AC-Sun has invented a climate-friendly air-conditioning system based on solar energy that uses only 10% of the electricity consumption of conventional air-conditioning systems, writes financial daily newspaper Børsen.

The novelty of the system, which is based on well-known thermal processes, is its considerable power savings (a factor of 10), pollution-free operation and silent cooling. The power savings come from the fact that the compressor in the system is run by a solar-driven steam engine, whereas conventional air-conditioning systems use an electric motor.

AC-Sun chairman Bo Rhein-Knudsen told Børsen: "There are enormous opportunities and now we have to find the right distributors. We have to mature the product and there is decent interest from both Danish and foreign companies." Knudsen expect AC-Sun will have its product ready for launch in about 12 months. ■

AC-Sun: www.ac-sun.com

DANES WHO MADE A DIFFERENCE

Niels Bohr

1885 - 1962

One of the most influential physicists of the 20th century, Niels Bohr was the first to apply the quantum concept to atomic structure, a concept that remains an important part of modern science. The Bohr model of the hydrogen atom, first published in 1913 and described by Einstein as "one of the great discoveries", earned Niels Bohr the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1922. The Institute of Theoretical Physics in Copenhagen, which Niels Bohr founded in 1922, became a gathering ground for a talented generation of physicists who were to create the new science of quantum mechanics. ■



Niels Bohr at the Niels Bohr Institute in 1955.
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